

education, activism, and religious pluralism have benefited the lives of so many.

Rabbi Orkand's energy and compassion are testament to his dedication and to all that he believes and cherishes. On a national level, he is currently chair of the National Commission on Jewish Education of the Reform Movement, co-chair of the Rabbinic Cabinet of the Association of Reform Zionists of America, and a member of the Executive Board of the Rabbinic Cabinet of the United Jewish Appeal. And locally he is a member of the Human Services Commission of the Town of Westport and has served as past president of the United Way, a member of the Board of Directors of the United Jewish Appeal Federation, and president of the Westport-Weston Clergy Association. Rabbi Orkand has coauthored three prayer books for children, "Gates of Wonder", "Gates of Awe", and "A Child's Haggadah."

This House salutes Rabbi Orkand for his dedication to duty and his love of God and humanity. He has left a wonderful mark on his congregation and all the communities he has touched over the years. Rabbi Orkand is a man of God and a true healer.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain fifteen 1-minutes on each side.

#### MOTHER NATURE IS WARNING US—WE SHOULD LISTEN

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, "Shake Rattle and Roll" may be the words of a famous rock and roll tune, but it is also Mother Nature pointing her finger and writing on the wall. Because less than just 1 week ago last Saturday, Mother Nature sent a 7.0 magnitude earthquake rolling through the western United States. Its epicenter was just about 100 miles east of Los Angeles, but this powerful quake made its way quickly to Las Vegas, derailing a train, and passing through and over Yucca Mountain, the proposed site to bury the Nation's most deadly toxic substance, nuclear waste.

Mr. Speaker, this quake shook Las Vegas with a 5.0- plus magnitude by the time it reached Las Vegas, and it was felt 100 miles away from the earthquake's epicenter. Mother Nature is pointing her finger at this country urging us to stop the nuclear waste lobbyists from sticking the deadliest wastes known to man into one of man's most seismically active areas of the country.

Mr. Speaker, this latest earthquake is yet another sign that Yucca Mountain is not the right place to store nuclear waste. Let us tell Mother Nature that we have heard her loud and clear.

Let us stop the Yucca Mountain project. Mother knows best.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO AMERICA'S TEAM, THE ATLANTA BRAVES

(Mr. LEWIS of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to congratulate the Atlanta Braves, America's team. I wish Bobby Cox and all the members of the Braves family the very best in their great nonviolent struggle against the New York Yankees.

I say this morning: Braves, go Braves. Go and win. You must win. When you win, America wins. Go Braves. Go Braves.

#### PROMOTE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF ALZHEIMER'S

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, have you ever put down your car keys and just 1 hour later forgotten where you left them? Have you ever forgotten the answer to the question for what you had for lunch yesterday? Well, fortunately, most everyone has experienced this very common type of forgetfulness. But imagine a person finding their car keys and forgetting what they are used for. Persons suffering with Alzheimer's Disease suffer similar memory losses. And as the disease progresses, forgetfulness can become more destructive. Alzheimer's affects approximately 4 million Americans now, and experts predict that about 8 to 10 million will suffer from Alzheimer's by the year 2020.

By stating that he was beginning the journey that would lead him into the sunset of his life, former President and Republican revolutionary Ronald Reagan announced to the world just 5 years ago that he too has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's. Ronald Reagan felt it necessary to share this disclosure with those he loved most, the American people. As valiantly as Ronald Reagan, my colleagues, I am sure, will promote greater public awareness about the disease of Alzheimer's.

#### WAR ON DRUGS IS A JOKE

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the governor of New Mexico says, and I quote, "America has lost the war on drugs. It is time to legalize drugs." Think about it. Cocaine and heroin, legal. Eleven- and 12-year-olds strung out.

This is a joke. While our drug czar worries about Olympic athletes, our

borders are wide open, literally tons of heroin and cocaine flooding our streets, and now politicians are calling for legalization of narcotics.

Beam me up. This is not a war on drugs; this is absolute surrender. I yield back all the catchy, get-tough, rah-rah, gung-ho slogans of America's great charade on drugs.

#### DEMOCRATS TRY TO FRACTURE REPUBLICANS

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday and for the past week the folks on this side of the aisle, the Democrats, have said the Republicans are going to take money from the Social Security Trust Fund to balance the budget.

Now, CBO, of course, issued a letter to the Speaker of the House on October 1, 1999 saying this was not true. Yet we have the Democrats continuing to say the opposite.

Now we have in the Associated Press an interesting quotation. The Democrats admit a raid on Social Security. "Privately, some Democrats say a final budget deal that uses some of the pension program's surpluses would be a political victory for them, because it would fracture the GOP by infuriating conservatives." That was October 19, 1999.

The bottom line is that Democrats are using this whole thing of Social Security as a political gimmick. They are politicizing this whole process because they are trying to fracture Republicans. The bottom line is Republicans are not going to raid the Social Security Trust Fund.

#### APPROPRIATION BILLS NEED TO BE ON THE FLOOR

(Mr. GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is amazing to follow my colleague from Florida, because once again we are seeing where the Republican leadership's values are. According to the CBO, the Congressional Budget Office, they are already borrowing \$13 billion more in Social Security dollars than they have available. Thirteen billion more in Social Security dollars.

But my concern this morning is that we have not even talked about the education funding. We have not even got to Labor-HHS yet. It is estimated that education could be reduced as much as \$16 billion, and yet the Republicans are already borrowing more than \$13 billion from Social Security before we have even gotten to education.

Education is the number one issue for most people in this country. They want more money put into it, not less. Yet what we are seeing is that we have not even gotten to one of the appropriation bills on the floor and they are